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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. X.—NO. 2. WEEKLY EDITION. NOVEMBER 16, 1872.

Allegheny County.

The Official Returns.

Grant's Majority 16,791!

The Return Judges of the Presidential election met on Friday, at the Court House, for the purpose of footing up the returns. Colonel Casper Gang was chosen President, and Messrs. R. C. Elliott, James K. Case and W. R. McClintock, Secretaries. The votes cast for Electors in the several districts are given in the table.

The total vote cast for President was 34,901, against 49,262 cast for Governor in October last—a falling off of 7,360 votes. Greeley's vote runs ahead of Hartranft was only 78. Greeley's vote falls below that cast for Buckalew 7,435.

The following table shows the aggregate vote cast for President in the four grand divisions of the county.

	Grant.	Greeley.	Maj.
Pittsburgh	8,404	3,500	4,910
Allegheny	5,478	1,801	3,677
Boroughs	3,053	1,711	3,392
Townships	6,985	1,993	4,812
Total	25,846	9,055	16,791

The new wards of Pittsburgh cast 3,223 votes for Grant, and 1,128 for Greeley, giving a majority of 2,095. The total vote of the consolidated city was: Grant, 11,083; Greeley, 4,673—Grant's majority, 7,005.

The vote for Governor, in October, was as follows:

	Hartranft.	Buckalew.	Maj.
Pittsburgh	8,383	6,231	2,154
Allegheny	5,424	3,422	2,002
Boroughs	5,096	2,836	2,260
Townships	6,868	4,003	2,865
Total	25,771	16,490	9,281

The increased vote for Grant, over that cast for Hartranft, is as follows:

	Grant.	Hartranft.	Inc.
Pittsburgh	8,383	8,308	75
Allegheny	5,478	5,422	56
Boroughs	5,103	5,096	7
Townships	6,868	6,868	Dec. 63
Total	25,846	25,771	Inc. 75

The vote cast for Buckalew and Greeley compares as follows:

	Greeley.	Buckalew.	Decrease.
Pittsburgh	3,500	6,231	2,681
Allegheny	1,801	3,420	1,619
Boroughs	1,711	3,095	1,384
Townships	1,993	4,003	2,010
Total	9,055	16,490	7,435

These figures show that while the Republicans on the whole increased their vote over that cast for Governor—a result not generally anticipated—the Democratic vote fell off nearly one-half.

Following are the figures in detail, with the vote cast for Governor:

DISTRICTS.	Governor. 1872. Hartranft. R.	President. 1872. Grant.	Greeley.
PITTSBURGH.			
1st ward	373	357	364
2d ward	411	396	417
3d ward	396	396	416
4th ward	396	391	413
5th ward	456	469	469
6th ward	648	383	621
7th ward	520	286	516
8th ward	384	376	387
9th ward	324	366	337
10th ward	144	319	167
11th ward	537	505	509
12th ward, 1st precinct	305	298	297
12th ward, 2d precinct	261	221	256
13th ward, 1st precinct	204	162	205
13th ward, 2d precinct	8	8	6
14th ward, 1st precinct	570	329	546
15th ward	250	294	264
16th ward, 1st precinct	14	14	14
16th ward, 2d precinct	202	95	197
17th ward	279	169	259
18th ward	72	65	68
19th ward	323	152	323
20th ward	121	122	113
21st ward, 1st precinct	374	142	367
21st ward, 2d precinct	34	7	34
22d ward	169	42	158
23d ward	192	197	198
24th ward, (Ormsby)	103	102	102
25th ward, (E. Birr., 2 p)	374	228	376
26th ward, (E. Birr., 1 p)	609	333	611
27th ward, (St. Clair)	188	218	181
28th ward, (Birm'g'm, 2 p)	380	292	407
29th ward, (Birm'g'm, 1 p)	243	79	244
30th ward, (S. Pgh.)	267	193	263
31st ward, (Allentown)	20	14	18
32d ward, (Mt. Wash'n)	209	97	225
33d ward, (Monong'ha)	97	77	88
34th ward, (W'Pt.)	93	167	97
35th ward, (Union)	147	65	142
36th ward, (Troy Hille)	206	148	187
ALLEGHENY.			
1st ward	609	307	635
2d ward	1,004	488	1,043
3d ward, 1st precinct	757	279	735
3d ward, 2d precinct	349	249	356
4th ward, 1st precinct	610	420	638
4th ward, 2d precinct	139	109	124
5th ward	570	288	569
6th ward	561	407	579
7th ward	222	210	207
8th ward	298	161	291
9th ward	131	147	127
SUBURBS.			
Elizabeth	181	80	165
Franklin	136	103	133
Sewickley	191	80	206
Shaler	214	245	189
McKeesport	336	177	306
West Elizabeth	73	44	72
Hamilton	49	49	49
Mulvale	129	33	116
Baldwin	74	69	68
Verona	48	15	55
Etna	199	62	199
Mansfield	38	12	38
Charters	78	32	79
Kilbuck, 1st precinct	74	25	83
Kilbuck, 2d precinct	74	26	73
Penn	130	103	131
Elizabeth, 1st precinct	114	72	103
Elizabeth, 2d precinct	77	24	77
Elizabeth, 3d precinct	128	16	78
Elizabeth, 4th precinct	120	30	119
Mifflin	312	306	282
Robinson, 1st precinct	91	24	94
Robinson, 2d precinct	98	67	105
Moon	166	166	158
Franklin	68	57	66
Baldwin, 1st precinct	90	73	94
Baldwin, 2d precinct	58	53	71
Ross, 1st precinct	81	28	75
Ross, 2d precinct	66	39	74
McCandless	85	80	82
East Deer	154	62	166
Upper St. Clair	61	72	59
North Fayette	138	90	139
Neville	25	141	37
Shaler, 1st precinct	118	25	105
Shaler, 2d precinct	57	43	59
Fawn	92	21	87
Wilkins, 1st precinct	371	85	259
Wilkins, 2d precinct	124	40	122
Patton, 1st precinct	183	53	72
Patton, 2d precinct	69	60	86
Versailles, 1st precinct	61	72	59
Versailles, 2d precinct	43	54	46
Versailles, 3d precinct	30	48	20
Jefferson	225	146	216
Charters	204	135	174
Findlay	104	181	104
Ohio	72	44	72
Reserve	58	81	69
Snowden	160	55	158
Pine	63	69	63
West Deer	168	42	84
Indiana, 1st precinct	159	75	169
Indiana, 2d precinct	102	49	101
Lower St. Clair	148	163	165
South Fayette	63	72	59
Swickley	38	18	37
Crescent	21	41	22
Collier	73	45	73
Richland	73	45	77
Hampton	97	53	87
Scott, 1st precinct	28	28	27
Scott, 2d precinct	82	26	82
Marshall	48	69	55
Ross	171	107	174
Lincoln	127	64	122
Forward	148	60	152
Upper St. Clair	61	72	59
North Versailles	149	79	139
Leet	94	39	94
North Bald	102	53	99
Total	25,771	16,490	25,846
Majority	9,281		16,791

Functions of the Brain.

If the manifestations of the brain's functions were the earliest to attract the attention of philosophers, they were among the last to receive explanation from physiologists. We believe that the progress of modern science allows us now to approach the subject of the physiology of the brain; but before entering upon the study of the cerebral function, we must clearly understand our point of departure. In this essay, we have attempted to state in the very onset of the

d to show how untenable is the opinion that the forms an exception in the organism, and is rgans of intelligence instead of being its nt. This idea is not only an absolute on, but an unscientific one, in the ogress of physiology and psychology. In- hat sense is there in the notion that any human organ is not the organ of the whole man, to be cited as a phenomenon ing the instrument? Such a notion may y have a great influence in discussing the ions of the brain, and a solution is combated ument and for the sake of argument; but refuse to allow that the brain can be the n of intelligence, from the fact that we have hat admission in materialistic doctrines; while ors eagerly and arbitrarily lodge intelligence a round of uniform nerve cells, for fear of being charged with spiritualism. For ourselves, we are not clearly acquainted with the Physical facts that except in the difference and the greater complexity of phenomena, the brain is an organ of intelligence in the same way that the heart is the organ of circulation, and the larynx that of the voice. We discover everywhere a necessary bond between the organs and their functions; it is a general principle, from which the organ of the brain is not excepted. Physiology should copy the example of more advanced sciences, and free itself from the fetters of philosophy that would impede its progress; its mission is to seek truth calmly and confidently; its object is to establish it firmly and definitively, without any alarm as to the form under which it may make its appearance.—*Claud Bernard, in Popular Science Monthly.*

Free Trade and Hard Times.

The Chicago *Tribune Farmer* says: One of our subscribers, living at Dix, Illinois says that he has heard and read a great deal about hard times in these days, but avers that he never knew such hard times as they were five years ago, when the country was cursed with "free trade." He gives the following instance in support of his position:

In Jefferson county, in this State, Mr. Coly purchased in Sept. a thousand pounds of wool, and of shoes, went to the country store and found that the merchant had the shoes he desired—one pair at each of two kinds, and the other at seventy five cents. This was considered an exorbitant price, which he declined to buy, but went home (a day's journey to market). This was a distance of eighty miles from his residence, but he calculated to ride, put some wheat, pork and salt in his shot bags, and camp on foot, killing birds for meat, and lying at night by the camp fires of marketers, which were plenty at that time. Arriving at the Mississippi at Illinoistown (now East St Louis), he found that it cost fifty cents to cross the river. He was mortified to find that he would then be obliged to break in upon the sum he had calculated to take home with, and over to the city, and purchased two pairs of shoes at a cost of forty and sixty cents. On returning home he had one pair left, and sixty cents, less the ferriage, by his trip. Walking eighty miles to save this amount may look absurd, but dollars were scarce, markets distant, the land covered with forests, labor without demand, and pork worth one dollar and fifty cents per hundred pounds.

The American Institute of Architects will hold its ninth annual session in Mozart Hall, Cincinnati, to-morrow and Wednesday.

Another Great Fire.

The City of Boston Desolated.

THE CHICAGO CONFLAGRATION OUTDONE

Heart of the City in Ashes.

Many Human Lives Sacrificed.

A High Wind Spreads the Flames.

The Finest Business Blocks in the World Destroyed.

Street After Street Despoiled.

THE CITIZENS PANIC-STRICKEN.

Steam Fire Engines Useless.

GRANITE PALACES CRUMBLE INTO DUST.

Fire-Proof Buildings a Delusion.

Mansard Roofs Feed the Flames

Impossible to Estimate the Loss.

HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS SWEPT AWAY.

Scenes and Incidents of the Great Disaster.

OUTRAGEOUS CONDUCT OF THE THIEVES.

Hundreds of Them Arrested.

The Militia on Duty.

Meeting of Prominent Citizens.

Nine Hundred and Thirty Business Houses Burned Out

SIXTY-FOUR DWELLINGS AND LODGING HOUSES

Loss Estimated at $80,000,000 to $100,000,000.

Status of Insurance Companies ---Reliable List of Their Losses

Effect in Wall Street and Throughout the Country.

No Financial Crisis.

Citizens' Meetings in the Principal Cities.

Special to Western Associated Press.

BOSTON, November 9—Midnight.

The greatest fire ever known in New England is now raging among the large wholesale stores in the very heart of the business portion of the city, and it will not cease until it reaches the wharves.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE CONFLAGRATION.

The fire was first kept a secret, but when the alarm was sounded, about half-past seven o'clock, followed by a second, third and fourth in rapid succession. But the first engine was hardly on the ground when the fire broke out from the fourth story of a large granite store on the corner of Summer and Kingston streets, occupied in the first story by Tebbets, Baldwin and Davis, wholesale dry goods dealers. It had caught in the engine room, and flames spread with lightning rapidity up the large elevator and were first seen climbing underneath the wood work of the roof. The engines were fairly at work before any other store had caught. The buildings in this vicinity were all granite, four stories high, and each surmounted with Mansard roof, none of them being over three years old. Detached spires rose here and there, and in the morning light presented a very picturesque appearance.

THE FLAMES SPREAD WITH LIGHTNING RAPIDITY.

The flames spread with lightning rapidity up the large elevator and were first seen climbing underneath the wood work of the roof. The engines were fairly at work before any other store had caught. The buildings in this vicinity were all granite, four stories high, and each surmounted with Mansard roof, none of them being over three years old. Detached spires rose here and there, and in the morning light presented a very picturesque appearance.

A STARTLING RUMOR.

There is a rumor, which I have no means of verifying at present, that the fire is extending southward. There are reports that the Worcester and Old Colony depots are in danger. If this is the case, the fire must have taken a backward course of nearly half a mile along Lincoln, South and Federal streets. It is known that the buildings in the entire section are wooden, mostly of wood, which seems to me to be a strong argument in favor of the theory that it is true. The flames cannot go far in this direction, however, as they will soon come to the water dividing Boston from Dorchester. Nothing will check the fire on the opposite side, however, and the loss in that quarter will be a very heavy one.

LOSS OF LIFE REPORTED.

It is rumored that several lives have been lost in the flames, though of course there can be no certainty of the fact. It is very probable, however, that several persons have been overcome by the rapid progress of the fire in the air, and one building after another caught on the roof and the flames skipped lightly along from one window to another, so that

IN LESS THAN THIRTY MINUTES

every check was blanched, as it became evident that the whole city was doomed. Not one person in a hundred left the flames, which were lapping gaily from roof to to roof and from one building to another. The second building to succumb was directly opposite to that in which the fire first broke out, and was occupied by Mullen, Mullen & Sims, Harding Bros. & Co., Bowen, Moore & Co., George Lides, Carter & Co., and Conant Bros., all wholesale dealers in dry and fancy goods. This was at the corner of Otis place.

THE HEAT NOW BECAME INFERNAL.

The streets ran rivers of water and every moment was heard the sound of granite blocks exploding. Tremont street was filled with falling stone. Nobody could stand within three blocks of the burning masses, so the fire had full possession of the buildings within its grasp. As each edifice caught fire from its neighbors the flames seemed to devour the contents in a few minutes, and the whole interior of a

[illegible]

flame grew in strength and power with terrible velocity. Falling roofs were sinking every moment and tottering walls fell with a crash. Not a fire engine could secure, and pedaling all hands were powerless and futile. Wherever the flames reached they rapidly consumed everything of a combustible character.

The large block on the corner of Summer and Kingston streets, in the line of the fire, is occupied by Tebbets, Baldwin & Davis, dry goods jobbers, A. K. Young & Co. occupied the building and Fred. Storrs had a manufactory for skirts and corsets giving employment to about forty operatives. The second block was occupied by Damon, Temple & Co., furnishing goods, &c. Notwithstanding this great build- ing was in almost an incredibly short space of time completely leveled to the ground, its destruction had not progressed far before the flames and sparks which arose from it had lodged upon all the buildings round about. Thus the fire spread almost instantly in three directions—first to the adjoining block in Summer street, then across Summer street to the opposite block, and then across Kingston street. In the first named direction the adjoining building was occupied by Leland & Wheelock, gents's furnishing goods, and Sawyer, Mansfield & Co., importers of dry goods. The next by Eager, Bartlett & Co., woolen goods; O. B. North & Son, hats, caps and furs, and the next by Farley, Anderson & Co., dry goods jobbers, and Rhodes & Ripley, wholesale clothing. The latter firm owned the building. The other, opposite Eagle, Bartlett & Co., were commission merchants, and Mellen & Goodwin. The other buildings on Kingston street were dwelling houses, and were all destroyed.

About eleven o'clock the scene in Lincoln, Essex, South, Federal and other streets in that immediate neighborhood was one of the saddest sights of the night. Hundreds of men, women and children were flying in every direction, the arms across the narrow arch street and moved rapidly up toward Washington street, many of the buildings containing fine stocks of goods. Bowen, Moore & Co. occupied the building on the corner of Summer and Lincoln streets, and Conant Bros. on the corner of Otis place. The flames continued to increase in power and fury, and the fire was communicated to the building on the opposite corner of Otis place, occupied by Sawyer, Foster & Bowman, agents of the Canton mills, Canton, Mass., and Conant Bros., all wholesale dealers in dry and fancy goods. Following Otis, on Lincoln street, came the building occupied by Hayden & Co., commission merchants; Thomas Sprague & Co., woolens; Bacon, Brown & Co., Hendrick & Co., Hogan & Co., Bennett & Hosford, clothing, the latter firm occupying the whole

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1872.

An examination into the causes of the Boston disaster, or rather of the rapid spread of the fire, appears to establish the fact that it was principally owing to the "Mansard roofs" by which the greater portion of the destroyed buildings were covered. Several of the papers of the devastated city have articles upon the subject; and it is said that, a number of years ago, when the section now ravaged was rebuilt, the owners were warned by insurance men that the addition of these roofs was but a preparation for an extensive fire. It is easy to understand how these frail structures, away up in the air, in many instances almost, if not quite, beyond the reach of water, as soon as ablaze should scatter the burning fragments to other roofs, and in this manner constitute the material on which the conflagration fed. Let Pittsburgh, as well as other cities, take warning from the lesson.

With the expiration of the Forty-second Congress, on the 4th of March next, the terms of twenty-four Senators will be concluded. Of these Senators twenty are Republicans, three are Democrats, and one belongs to the Liberal Republican party. COLE, of California, FERRY, of Connecticut, PATTERSON, of New Hampshire, and CORBETT, of Oregon, have already Republican successors. In North Carolina and Georgia, Legislatures have been chosen which will elect Democrats to the Senate in the places held by POOL, of the former State, and HILL, of the latter. The Senate at present consists of fifty-four Republicans, seventeen Democrats and five Liberals. These last are Messrs. SCHURZ, FENTON, SUMNER, TIPTON and TRUMBULL, who will, of course, vote with the Democrats, raising the Democratic opposition to the number of twenty-two.

We have already referred to the understood fact that the purchase by the government of the telegraph lines of the country, and their use as a part of the national postal system, will be urged upon Congress at its ensuing session. Once fairly tried, there is little doubt that the plan would meet with general acceptation and favor. In England the benefit of the system to the people has been immense, whilst the profit have yielded a handsome revenue to the government that the rates of transmission, low as they were before, are to be at once reduced one-half. Of course the whole subject, before any action is taken upon it, will undergo thorough discussion at the hands of the people and the press; but there does not seem to be any good reason why the introduction of the system into this country should not, at least measurably, be productive of advantages similar to those which the people of Great Britain have derived from its establishment.

In view of the magnanimous spirit exhibited by the victors toward the vanquished, and of the straightforward and manly course which, as a general thing, the people of the Southern States accept the results of the late election, it is to be hoped that the Northern portion of the late so-called party of "reconciliation" may speedily bring their own bickerings and animosities to a close. As it is, the "Liberals" and Democrats, late so lamb-like in pacific disposition, are turning upon one another with the resulting ravenousness of wolves, each attributing the overwhelming defeat of the coalition to the cowardice or treachery of the other party to the bargain. Having miserably failed in their combined efforts to hoodwink and delude the people, they are now vociferously accusing each other of bad faith; on the ground it is to be supposed, that no matter what abominable jugglery was attempted on the masses, the authors and accomplices of the conspiracy were bound "in honor" to stand by one another to the end. Altogether, it is a very curious and instructive revelation.

However sincerely the majority of the principal organs of the coalition may be in their expressions of regret over the defeat of their candidate, it is quite clear that the number includes one paper which is by no means afflicted with the result. This is the New York *Sun*, which, it is shrewdly suspected in most quarters, deluded GREELEY in order to see him all the more thoroughly beaten. At all events, that journal has a very remarkable way of showing its sympathy. In a recent article on the favorite Saturday recreation of the veteran editor, it indulges in a vein of the most mocking, Mephistophelian sarcasm, that the pouring of vitriol upon the hapless victim would be an act of mercy in comparison. "Still," says the *Sun*, after doing its utmost to make him appear contemptible, "he is just as great a man as he was six months ago—and much more experienced;" a reminder which is administered by way of a parting shot. It is not our province to inquire into the cause of the *Sun's* enmity; but it is certain that the retaliatory course it has pursued furnishes one of the most extraordinary instances and samples of revenge on record.

The iron trade just now presents some remarkable phases. There are at present in this city agents of an English house, who offer to deliver in Pittsburgh sixteen thousand tons of ore from Algeria, at prices quite moderate. At the figures named the ore would not cost more than Lake Superior ore at the prices spoken of for next season. Ores are also offering from Nova Scotia at figures still less than the African ore. These ores are warranted to yield sixty-two per cent. of iron. Should Superior ores continue to advance, the foreign product will at once come in competition with them. It is remarkable that these ores can be carried such long distances by water, and then freighted several hundred miles inland and offered at prices so moderate. Should the demand for iron continue to increase, it will no doubt stimulate the development of our mines of low grade ore. The hills of Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia are rich in iron ores—of a lower per cent., it is true, than those of the Superior region, but which, considering the difference in the cost, soon find a market. It would be an anomaly, indeed, should the iron ores of Africa be brought into competition with those of Lake Superior, in the Pittsburgh market.

It is rumored that Minister WASHBURN will be a candidate for the United States Senate from Illinois, in TRUMBULL's place. This place has been conceded to OGLESBY, the Governor elect, and we do not credit the rumor about WASHBURN. A more probable solution is that he will go into the Cabinet—the new one which there is reason to believe GEN. GRANT will gather together at the opening of his next term. There is a great deal of nonsense put forth on the Cabinet business, not the least of it being about the part Pennsylvania will play. It appears to be conceded on all hands that this State is entitled to as much as a Cabinet officer, and it is probable that Gen. GRANT will do his best to recognize the claim in this way. The name of Judge SCOFIELD has been used in connection with the Navy, a department which appears to need an infusion of business ability and energy. That gentleman's fitness for it cannot be questioned, his position for some time at the head of the Naval Committee of the House having given him a knowledge of that branch of the government. Beyond this fact there may be found a little ground for the rumor which uses Judge SCOFIELD's name than many others which are purely imaginary. We would be glad to know it were otherwise. Natural born Pennsylvania Cabinet Ministers are not so numerous as to embarrass the President in his efforts to select the best.

People in general were perhaps not aware how completely of the late Gen. MEADE was penetrated with the spirit of Republicanism, and how much he was beloved by the people where he was intimately known. Thus a German paper of Philadelphia, the *Demokrat*, says:

"To Philadelphians he was the noble, amiable, meritorious man, not merely the famous General, the deliverer of the North, and especially Pennsylvania and Philadelphia, from the terrors of war. They saw in him not only the glorious victor of Gettysburg, but also the excellent, patriotic fellow citizen, the honored promoter of everything good and beautiful, the friend of the poor and the oppressed, and the man who, as well in all serious public affairs as in joyous festivals, evinced the most lively interest in the welfare of his fellow men. The general Meade was at home in Philadelphia, and known, respected and loved by all. His simple, modest bearing had opened to him all hearts, while for his eminent intellectual qualities, as well as for his unblemished purity, they held him in the greatest consideration. No one of our famous popular Generals of the last war was so much a favorite with the people, so beloved and respected, as General Meade. * * * Toward the Germans he was always especially complaisant, and had the most lively sympathy for the movements set on foot by the German element, such as the Humboldt commemoration, the celebration of peace, and the fair in aid of the wounded in Germany. At the singing festivals, shooting festivals, Turner festivals, he always was one of the first of the invited guests, and cheerfully attended, with the highest pleasure in the joyful exercises of his fellow citizens. Goodness of heart and nobleness of soul adorned this famous man not less than the renown of his great deeds in war.

When thinking of General MEADE's character, talents and popularity where he was known, one cannot but think on what he might possibly have attained if he had lived a few years longer.

The days of the German *Herrenhaus* would seem to be numbered—at least, in its present form. Among the Berlin dispatches in the COMMERCIAL of yesterday two related to this subject, one of them announcing the resolution of the government and the other the wish of BISMARCK to effect a radical reform in the organization of the Upper House of the Diet. Though at first designed to be a transcript, so to speak, of the English House of Lords, the *Herrenhaus*, unlike the English body of corresponding name, is not the result of slow historical growth, and therefore has no such far-reaching roots in the life of the nation as enable the British House of Lords for the present to resist the many influences which tend to its overthrow. The German House of Peers is of recent origin, and owes its existence to a mere paragraph in a written constitution. Almost from the first, too, its members have been unfortunate in the selection of leaders for the direction of its policy, and instead of justifying the establishment of their chamber, by judicious and helpful service, they have proved themselves genuine obstructionists. Whenever the policy of the government favored their order, they were always on the side of the government, but offered determined opposition as often as the ministry proposed a measure of different tendency. At length the patience of BISMARCK and the Emperor is apparently exhausted, and it seems now probable that before many months the *Herrenhaus* will be either abolished or so reorganized as to deprive it of the power which it has not known how to exercise with judgment.

AN EFFECT OF THE FIRE.

A seismologist of some distinction expressed the opinion, some years ago, that if an earthquake as violent as one which occurred in the early history of Boston were to occur there at the present time, it would certainly destroy a great part of the city. And the same authority, if we rightly remember, further expressed the opinion that the situation of the city makes it liable to a similar visitation. We know not what importance has been attached to this speculation by the inhabitants of the American Athens, but we are sure that some people at a distance would have been less surprised by the report that Boston had suffered the fate of Caracas than they were by the dispatch of last Sunday morning, which stated that it was threatened with the fate of Chicago. Boston, with its peculiarly solid constructions and perfectly organized and carefully managed municipal government, was generally thought of as less exposed than almost any other city in the country to the perils of fire. Certainly, the burning of no other large city on the continent could have given such emphasis to the warning, or such effect to the lessons, which seem to be everywhere derived from the calamity. Chicago, both in its construction and position, was peculiarly liable to the destruction which befel it. The houses were largely built of wood, and in the use of less inflammable material little care or skill had been applied to guard against the danger of fire. Then, the situation of the city, on the shore of the lake and on the edge of vast level spaces, open to sweeping winds, was an additional circumstance, which, when all things were taken into account, it appeared almost wonderful that the place had been spared so long. And while in rebuilding their desolated city, the people of Chicago have taken, or at least tried to take, all the precautions suggested by their locality and recent calamity, to prevent a repetition of the late catastrophe, the inhabitants of other cities have perhaps congratulated themselves on their exemption from circumstances rendering extraordinary precautions necessary. It is certain, at any rate, that the first impression produced by the Chicago disaster as to the inadequacy of the ordinary agencies for protection against fire had gradually grown faint, or had given place to a degree of apathy or unconcern which the Boston calamity may have been needed to banish. Such a terrible example of comprehending facts there can be not easily be any difference of opinion concerning its import in relation to property. In the light of the fire which has just laid Boston in ashes, in despite of the fact that the firemen were on the spot at the beginning of the conflagration, possessions in our American cities must seem held by a very precarious tenure, which, by its painful stimulus can hardly fail to revolutionize both the business of insurance and the common means provided for the arrest of fire.

STILL WEDDED TO ITS IDOLS.

Surely it is time for the most ingrained Bourbon in the country to surrender his opposition to the Constitutional amendments. This, however, it seems utterly impossible for the Pittsburgh *Post* to do. Remarking on the claim of the Republicans that President GRANT's majority on the popular vote will reach fully half a million, that paper says the claim, if true, makes him "the negroes' President, their only friend," and then adds to the figure, adding that "the people of the United States must submit to what may emphatically be called negro rule," and declaring that "the blackest fraud, united with the blackest men, have dirtied the old flag all over." The *Post* further affirms that on the basis of the white vote of the people, which has therefore already repudiated, "GRANT is a beaten candidate;" an assertion wholly at variance with the truth, since if every Southern State had pronounced for GREELEY, the result would still have been the same. President GRANT's popular majority in each of the free States being in almost every case considerably, and in many instances enormously, above the colored vote of those States. This, however, is not the point. The point is the intolerance which fires that paper against the negro, and against admitting him to an equal chance in work and citizenship with the rest of the American people. This is the spirit which has heretofore hindered the regeneration of the Southern States, and retarded the solution of their problem. The special needs of those States are credit, immigration, and an entire reconstruction of public sentiment with regard to the rights of the black man. Yet here is a Northern Democratic paper which, instead of lending its influence to reconcile that portion of our country to the established order of things, and trying to educate it up to the general sentiment of the age with respect to human rights, is doing all it can to keep alive the miserable caste feeling which, so long as it exists, must inevitably operate to the disadvantage, not only of the States immediately concerned, but also of the country at large. A better spirit of the GREELEY movement, if it ever had a lodgment in the mind of the *Post*, certainly did not continue beyond the election.

ABOUT LIBRARIES.

Some time last winter we broached the subject of the desirability of some system of public libraries to supplement the work of the public schools. Not a few of the towns in the State are entirely destitute of public library advantages; and—as it seemed, and still seems, to us—very little argument is required to show that the youth whose intelligence is awakened by the training of the public school, ought, alike for their own welfare and that of the Commonwealth, to be given access to literature of a proper kind; since if they are not they will almost inevitably fall back on the feverish and unhealthy reading whose influences have already sapped the minds and tainted the sympathies of so many of our young of both sexes. We hold the matter to be of general interest to all who are concerned in the vital subject of public education; and it is gratifying to observe that Vermont has already inaugurated measures looking to the establishment of a library system throughout the State; the Legislature having made a liberal appropriation, which is to be distributed among the several towns of the State in the ratio of their respective populations to the population of the entire State; each town being required to provide a suitable building or room, and to appoint a librarian who shall report to the trustees of the State library, and be governed by rules laid down by those officials. Any town may also vote money for the maintenance or increase of the library, and may also receive bequests or donations. The towns are to have control of the expenditure of the money appropriated, but they must expend it, and for books only. In this manner, while free scope is given to individual enterprise, a general system is established which directs and governs all. The measure has passed the Legislature, but it is to be further submitted to the popular vote next March, by which it will unquestionably be ratified. And the question of sound, practical public library system, as an adjunct of a sound, practical public school system, is of vital importance to every State in the Union, and must sooner or later be so recognized; and it seems to be a matter worthy of the thoughtful consideration of our own legislators.

THE GOVERNOR ELECT.

Reports which attribute to General HARTRANFT the intention to appoint sundry persons to sundry offices should be received with many grains of allowance. Like General GRANT, the Governor elect possesses the faculty of keeping his own counsel. There is good reason for believing that regarding no appointment has he yet declared his intention. On one point, however, there would not be much risk in entertaining a fixed belief; and that is that General HARTRANFT fully realizes the necessity of calling around him men of recognized ability and character—men so elevated in both of these respects that their names will disarm criticism, justify the expectations of his friends, and confound his enemies. It would be an insult to the Governor elect to suppose that he could by any means be induced to lower his standard from this only line, whereby his administration can be successful. His enemies, writhing in defeat, content themselves with predictions of failure. His friends, pointing to his magnificent majority, are confident that his administration will be an eminently successful one; and they look for the appointment of his cabinet as the first proof that they are to suffer no disappointment.

As interesting, and indeed important, decision was rendered, a few days ago, in the Supreme Court of the State of Maryland. Not only an ancient statute, but a passage in the Constitution of that State, determines that, in order to be qualified to give testimony in a court of justice the witness must believe in the existence of GOD and in a future state of reward and punishment. In a case on trial protest was entered on the part of the defense against the admission of a witness on the ground that he was an irreligious man, disqualified by the law just cited. But after conference with the witness objected to, the court ruled that he was competent to give testimony because, though not believing in the existence of a personal GOD or in a future judgment, he yet recognized the presence of a higher controlling power in nature.

There are countries in which the people loudly profess the belief that GOD is everywhere, and that after death the most terrible punishment awaits the liar and a still more terrible punishment awaits the perjurer, and yet the same people lie habitually and perjure themselves with the utmost facility for the most trivial present reward. In Christian countries, also, amidst the ignorance and corruption of manners which prevailed a few hundred years ago, perjury was frightfully common, in despite of the prevalence of orthodox belief. As an illustration we may refer to the professional perjurers who used to lounge around English courts of justice, with straws protruding from their shoes as insignia of the business by which they lived. These "men of straw" all professed the belief necessary to qualify them for the establishment of falsehood and for the contradiction or perversion of the truth. In fact, as MR. J. S. MILL long ago pointed out, a man who refuses to qualify himself for giving testimony, by professing a belief which he does not entertain—in other words, a man too honest and sincere to tell a falsehood that he may be permitted to bear witness—is not likely to bear false witness. In excluding such a witness from the stand, courts have, no doubt, often refused testimony on the very ground which should have made it welcome, pronouncing a witness disqualified for the reason which attested his veracity.

Transmission of Education.

MR. L. Hunt relates that having purchased an uneducated Skye terrier, he with great difficulty taught him the amusement of "setting up." The long course of tuition was not owing to any especial stupidity on the part of the dog; for when this trick was acquired, he learned many others with great ease. Indeed, he was the envy of the children of the family, and one of his daughters, who had never seen her father train his dog, was in the constant habit of "setting up," although she never could be taught to do so, and had not seen other dogs sit up. MR. HUNT adds, "He is now getting old, and I am afraid to show him any other dog is being scolded. Whether this is an instance of hereditary habit, of which Mr. Darwin gives so many curious instances, or whether the dog simply hopes to avert the passing storm from her own head, I cannot say; but I am taught to believe in the impression that "sitting up" has a certain special virtue for turning away wrath.—*Scribner's.*

Indigenous Tea.

The Reading (Pa.) *Times and Dispatch* says: "An invoice of 13 bales of Blue Mountain tea, weighing 1,920 pounds, arrived yesterday at the freight depot in this city. Thomas Kelly, of Schuylkill county. This tea is composed of the leaves of a variety of the GoldenRod family, botanically known as Solidago Odoro, or Sweet Goulden Rod. It is gathered in large plantations on the Blue Mountains, in the mountains to the north of the latter range. The tea matures in the latter part of September, and is harvested until late in the month of October. It is then cured and put up in packages, ready for use. The mountains at from 20 to 40 cents per pound, but the market is ready in towns and villages at $1 per pound. The tea has a very pleasant, aromatic flavor, and is held by many persons in great esteem.

Carlotta Patti, who sang here last week, has mingled money and music all over. She is as shrewd as any agent in the making of a bargain, and spends her income lavishly in dresses and diamonds. She is specially fond of the sun's disc, which is to take place in December, 1874.

A remarkable fossil bird was lately discovered in Western Kansas that is creating not a little sensation among the naturals. It differs widely from all known birds. It is about as large as a pigeon, and has been named *ichthyornis dispar*, which signifies a fish bird.

The proper answer to the statement that Democrats voted on account of the late election is, because they had no principle in it.

The cattle trade of Colorado is of vast importance. The Denver *Tribune* says the entire number of cattle already shipped, and to be shipped during the season, will require over 1,000 cars, and number over 17,000 head. At an average valuation of $35 per head, this is a total paid for cattle to the Territory of $595,000.

Michigan papers give cheerful accounts of the lumbering operations in that State. The recent rains have materially swollen the streams, and the large number of logs which have been hung up during the summer, are making a rapid and prosperous run.

During the year ending with the 30th of last June nearly nine millions of acres of public lands were disposed of, besides grants to railroads and three and one-half millions of dollars were received from sales of timber. The value of the cattle compared with the intrinsic value of the property, but it shows that our government and people are strengthening by land and sea in a very remarkable manner.

One of the fashionable churches in New York has adopted an expedient for attracting the curious of its congregation to church, which, costing nothing, might perhaps be adopted with profit elsewhere. At the rear of the church is kept hanging a slate bearing upon it a list of the hymns to be sung, which, as it is found, proves effectual in increasing the attendance of young ladies at divine service.

Coal was discovered in England in 1234, and first dug under a charter granted the town of New Castle by Henry III. It was then called sea coal. The brewers, etc., began to consume it extensively in 1260. In consequence of an application from the nobility and gentry, Edward I., in 1306, published a proclamation against the use of sea coal in London.

A new epizootic has broken out among hogs, and simultaneously comes the report that the French champagne vintage is almost a total failure this year. The two events may be meteorologically connected perhaps, as the difficulty affects (s)wine in both instances.

The remnant of the Seminole tribe in Florida is divided into three families of about twenty persons each. One of these, of which Young Tiger Tail is chief, is located about eight miles from Fort Myers, on the Caloosahatchee river, another under Old Tiger Tail lives on Little river, and the other, presided over by Jumper, has settled near Biscayne bay.

This comes of sleeping with a pistol under one's pillow. An Ohio man the other night discharged a revolver while in his sleep, the ball entering the right thigh and passing diagonally through the thigh, lodging near the knee. When he awoke he was sitting up in bed, with the revolver in his left hand, and the ball in the right thigh.

In one of the streets of New York there is a housepainter's sign setting forth "brushes eye painted." Considering the number of bruisers in that city, that ought to be a profitable business.

Champagne dealers are threatening a heavy advance in the price of their aerated slops. The ostensible reason is "a failure of the vintage in France." But what that has to do with New England rum or Jersey lightning, on the Atlantic coast, or with that at Rock Island, be all that the service needs. Military expenditures, tax-payers will be pleased to know, are on a descending scale.

A Japanese nobleman of great enterprise and an immense fortune, is looking about in Western Missouri for the right spot to establish an industrial town of his countrymen. He calculates to bring over at least a hundred families.

A bill has been introduced into the Australian Legislature, which provides for compulsory education in free schools—a sign of progress which proves that the enlightened people of that colony have studied the American system with commendable care.

One of the novelties at the American Institute, in New York, is a saw with diamond teeth. It cuts its way through all opposition in rapidly slicing a marble block into ornamental forms. It is said to cut granite stones are set several inches apart, but steam force drives them to and fro vigorously without wearing off their sharp angles.

One of the blessings that Congress can do this winter is to act upon the proposition of Superintendent Walker for an immediate census of the United States, to be taken in 1875. By all means, there should be a full census taken this winter, and it is none too soon to arrange the preliminaries for it.

Not less than twenty astronomers have made arrangements for taking photographs of the transit of Venus over the sun's disc, which is to take place in December, 1874.

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THE SITUATION IN JAPAN.

An Amherst Professor's Opinion.

Prominent Traits of the People—The Government Anxious for Improvement—Religious Persecution Still Practiced—Great Need of Scientific Men.

[Correspondence of the Springfield Republican.]

ON THE YELLOW SEA, September 16, 1872.

We have just left Japan, and, before my ideas get mixed with another Asiatic people, it may be well to say a word or two. It seems certain that the most prominent traits of Japanese character are pleasant good nature, (I haven't seen a cross-looking person since we have been here), and no special ambition for any higher condition. The people are polite, making many very interesting works of curious art, but do not show inventive genius at all, though they copy very well. They seem satisfied with their condition, and are contented to live in the same style and manner as they have for so many years past. I must, however, make an exception in favor of a few who want to learn the English language and adopt Europ an customs; but these people are few, and make no mass as contrasted; if they can get an hour or two to sleep after each meal, and very often have a chance to light their pipes and smoke a whiff or two.

It is evident, however, that the government sees the advantages to be derived from American and European civilization, and is eager for it; so much so that many feel it is crowding new ideas too fast. They want things introduced, but would rather have them, be they steamships, railroads, or a general system of education, just as a boy goes after playthings. Their railroad of 18 miles from Yokohama to Yeddo is an instance. They determined to have the line finished, and so they have got it, but at a fearful rate of interest on the loan which secured it to them. And their greed for school-teachers is just now so great that English clerks, both here and in China, are securing salaries as high as $500 per month, who are by no means fitted for their high duties. In spite of all this somewhat unfortunate mixture of things, however, it is very delightful to see that the government sees the need which Japan has to break away from old and corrupt influences, in order to elevate her people and take a better position among the nations.

About the time of our leaving America we saw the statements that portray religious freedom as now enjoyed all over Japan, and that a very zealous Christian missionary had declared the islands a Christian country, and baptized him. This is by no means the truth, or an approximation to it, for within a few rods of our hotel a missionary is pointed out and I read to me an edict of the general government in these words, as near as I could copy conveyed clearly by the aid of piano and Bible-house, to my mention, knowledge: "It is a punishable addition to our knowledge of the Dead Sea one of the fruits of the expedition. Neither the ericon Sunday school nor Christianity shall enter the Dai de Lusnes, though both parties had so, several times before come to the country. Between the Judean and the Moabite shore of this lake of the East. The western shore is well wn to be destitute of plant life, and entirely stitute of vegetation of any kind. It now appears that the eastern shore, which is of the same logical formation and comparatively abundant ity of water, is not only covered with small ds and studded by deciduous trees, but has in- ite to the extremity palm growing luxuriant- the circle of rocks encircling the sea itself, climbi g far up the mountains.

AN ALLEGED CONSPIRACY.

Wealthy Newark Grocer Incarcerated in the Trenton Lunatic Asylum by His Wife.

[From the New York Times, 15th.]

Yesterday afternoon, Mrs. Bischoffsberger and her brother-in-law, Simon Strentz, were arrested in bank, charged with unlawfully depriving Mr. Bischoffsberger of his liberty and attempting to defraud him of his property. The story is told by one of Mr. Bischoffsberger's friends as follows:

Seven months ago, Mrs. Bischoffsberger, having a case to get her husband out of the house, for the ose of securing control of his property, to which ne, in the absence of her husband, is entitled, as a physician to give a certificate that her husband was insane. To this certificate she procured, the signature of a drug clerk, who had pretended ve a medical diploma. Upon this document Mr. Bischoffsberger was hurried away to the asylum at ton, to which he was admitted by the Superintendent without any careful examination. The wife six months lived in affluence on the husband's money. In the time some of her husband's friends me suspicious of the stories that had been given relative to Mr. Bischoffsberger's whereabouts, instituted a search. Failing to find him, application was made to Judge Scudder, sitting overcome by the horror of the situation, in a few moments she recovered her speech and screamed for help as the only means of securing assistance. She feared to leave lest he might die during her absence. In addition to crying for help, she also rang a large bell used for summoning the farm hands to their meals. The noise attracted the attention of Mr. H. Holbrook, of the firm of Holbrook & Kramer, residing about a quarter of a mile from the knox mansion. He dressed himself, and in company with Mrs. J. Potter, who resided with him, started to Mr. Knox's. They found Mrs. Knox almost frantic, and scarcely able to speak, she informed them that her husband was dying, and at once showed them to his room. By this time Mr. Knox had become very weak, and in a few moments ceased to breathe. His death was caused by heart disease. Years ago Mr. Knox had complained to a friend of a strange sensation, and remarked that he would die suddenly. He seemed to have had a premonition of approaching death, but the matter was treated by his friend at the time, as an idle fancy.

As Mr. Knox was a man of robust constitution, and enjoyed excellent health, the news of his death could scarcely be credited, and was a severe shock to all his personal friends. The Rev. J. Dermitt, a very intimate friend and neighbor, and for many years associated with the deceased in business, was informed of the sad event, while on his way to the city, by the toll collector on the Monongahela bridge. So terrible was the shock that Mr. Dermitt fainted away, and remained unconscious for nearly an hour. He was removed to his residence and placed under medical treatment, and last evening was quite restored physically, but deeply afflicted in consequence of the loss of his dear friend.

Mr. Knox was born in the State of Ohio, and was the son of the Rev. William Knox, a minister of the Pittsburgh Conference of the M. E. church. He entered the ministry at an early age, and was pastor of a number of congregations in the vicinity of Pittsburgh. He married here, and made Pittsburgh his home. Having a great taste for horticulture, he embarked in the business some years ago, and became one of the most successful cultivators of small fruits in the country. His grapes, strawberries, and other fruits are well known all over the United States. The Concord, or "Knox Seedling," which was originated on his farm, is one of the finest strawberries known. He was also very successful in the cultivation of the Lawton blackberry. He was ardently devoted to the subject of horticulture, and has done much to promote the growth

The Pittsburgh Commercial. Saturday, November 16, 1872.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1872.

EVERY day makes the Republican victory in this State more overwhelming in its magnitude. The latest returns, based on official and carefully estimated majorities, give a total majority of upward of one hundred and forty thousand. Republicans throughout the whole land have reason to be proud of the magnificent victory which they have achieved in the Pennsylvania triumph is entirely without precedent in the political history of the country. The grand old Commonwealth has deserved richly at the hands of the nation.

THE Memphis *Appeal*, late a GREELEY organ, is frank enough, in reciting the causes of the defeat of the coalition, to declare that the principal object of the movement, as understood in the South, was to "restrict the operation of recent constitutional amendments." Of course it was, and that is also the principal reason why the scheme and its abettors have been laid by the heels. It is to be hoped that paper, and all others of its class, will have the good sense to understand and profit by the lesson taught. The solemn constitutional amendments are pillared with the foundations of the republic, to stand while they last. This is the unalterable decision of the people. Let it be duly heeded.

THE liberal appropriation recently made by the city of Philadelphia to defray the preliminary expenses of the Centennial Commission, appears to have given a noticeable impetus to the movement in various other parts of the country. In several States, we observe, the work of voluntary subscription is about to begin. The Massachusetts corporators of the exhibition have requested the National banks in that State to act as agents and solicit subscriptions. The Illinois incorporators are also making preparations for opening subscription books, and in a number of other States besides our own arrangements are on foot to give to the celebration of the great event all the aid they can to make it worthy of the rare occasion.

AS IN the case of the great Chicago conflagration, so in that of Boston: *there is no single profession, enterprise or pursuit, on* which the Boston fire has fallen with more terrific force than upon the press. The offices of all the leading journals of that city have been destroyed, no portion of their material having, so far as is learned, been saved. Our contemporaries will have the heartfelt sympathy of the whole journalistic profession in the terrible calamity of which they have been the victims, but we shall confidently expect them to speedily spring up into renewed existence, exhibiting all their old vitality and power. The indestructible type and impression is one thing, of the embodiment of intelligence of which they are the plastic tools and agencies, quite another.

MR. GREELEY returns to the *Tribune* a wiser if not a better man. The "business" for which he left to dwell upon a failure that he is quite unable to overcome, and which utterly bordering on sadness which he feels. He won't try it again, and his experience and example will in many ways be a benefit to the country. It is probable MR. GREELEY feels that his candidacy, so disastrous to himself, presents many ludicrous features—and he may suspect that he is less the object of sympathy than ridicule. This is doubtless the fact concerning him as a politician and aspirant for office, but as a man and a citizen the profession of which he stands as nearly at the head as any one, the case is otherwise; for as such he has the respect of as large a proportion of his countrymen as positive men like him ordinarily have. The *Tribune* needs MR. GREELEY, and it is not improbable that in his old place he will be all the more able to render instruction and do good for his recent adventure.

AMONG the reforms which have been suggested since the close of the campaign, are, an amendment to the Constitution so as to change the present mode of voting for President and Vice President to a direct vote of the people, and also to secure representation by population in the United States Senate as well as in the House of Representatives. The first of these propositions has for a long time been approved by a large portion of each of the great political parties, while the latter is held by its advocates that the day has gone by when it was necessary for the protection of the smaller and less thickly populated States that they should have an equal Senatorial representation with their more powerful neighbors. Whether this suggestion will be likely to meet with the favor which the former would in all probability receive, is perhaps doubtful. It is certain, however, that there will be no lack of questions for popular agitation during the next four years.

THE mercantile classes of the country may be said to occupy the position of mediators between producers and consumers; in which capacity they are bound to exercise with prudence and honesty that forethought and knowledge obtained from their acquaintanceship with the laws of commerce and the wants of the community. Where cunning and subtlety take the place of direct and sober dealing, in the pursuit of gain, the parasite becomes gangrened. It is gratifying to observe that Chicago, where this demoralizing spirit has heretofore to a considerable extent prevailed, is making a brave attempt to frown it out of existence. The Board of Trade of that city, last week, after a full and impartial investigation of the cases, expelled two members for alleged dishonorable and unmerchantlike conduct. If a similar wholesome course were pursued by the associations of this kind by mercantile bodies generally, the whole country would unquestionably be the gainer. The example of Chicago in this instance speaks well for the standard of honor among its representative business classes.

WHILE the following extract from a representative Southern paper will strike the average Northern reader as a somewhat ludicrous combination of haughtiness and helplessness, there is a considerable modicum of truth in it, nevertheless:

"The Democrats in the North have not done their duty. Well, they fooled us in 1861, when they swore that Lincoln and his hirelings would have to march over their dead bodies to get at the South, and they have been fooling us ever since with wordy protestations which mean exactly nothing. Hereafter, we had best take care of ourselves, and go it on our own hook."

That is also the way in which the matter will be apt to strike most sensible people, to whatever school of politics they may belong. There is little doubt that the chief responsibility for a very large share of whatever sufferings the Southern people have experienced, rests on the leaders of the Northern wing of the Democracy, by whose delusive representations they have again and again been deceived. The very best thing that the South can do is to come up cordially and sincerely to the support of the Republican administration. The truth, the justice, the political validity of its principles, have again and again been demonstrated under the severest tests. Let the people of the Southern States organize themselves around the party which embraces these higher principles. That is the way in which to share in the benefits and prosperity which they bring.

ARE Americans generally aware of the fact that in proportion to their number they consume more than twice as much spirituous liquor as any other people? At least we find the statement made on the authority of statistics. Last year the country was dazzled by the wholesale purchase of liquors, including domestic and foreign wines, brandy, etc., amounted, it is alleged, to one hundred and sixty-two millions of dollars. Upon these the retailers realized a gain of five hundred millions of dollars, so that the entire outlay last year in the United States for spirituous drink rose to the enormous sum of six hundred and sixty-two millions of dollars, which, distributed among the inhabitants, women and children included, would give each person about seventeen dollars. We are further told that of every two hundred and fifty inhabitants, on the average, one holds a license for the sale of spirituous drink, and as each of these licensed venders employs one or two assistants in the business there must be somewhere about three hundred and fifty thousand men, or great part of every one hundred and twenty persons of the population engaged in quenching the thirst of the rest. Then, as neither women nor children extensively patronize the drinking houses, they may be deducted from the number given above—a process which reduces the consumers to about twelve millions. Hence every eighty drinkers in this occupation to one minister of the gospel, consume yearly 400 gallons of brandy, 80 gallons of wine, 2,000 gallons of beer, and each one of the eighty contributes somewhere about sixty dollars in payment for the liquors used.

We give the figures as we find them, without taking the trouble to verify their accuracy or making ourselves responsible for it. They are, however, not derived either from a "Temperance address" or a "Total Abstinence tract." In fact, the source seems to render their essential correctness probable. Upon their import no comment suggests itself, unless we direct attention to the admirable diligence with which some of the venders of the beverage in question pursue their vocation. In Chicago, some of the Eighties certainly have no reason to complain of remissness or negligence on the part of the men authorized to minister to their thirst. Sunday and week day relays of attendants are ever at their post, and all night long the cheerful light shines through the windows of their "shops," a perpetual fire, reminding wanderers, late and early, that it is neither too late nor too early to procure what they need to make them comfortable. Such merit deserves recognition, and we therefore commend these assiduous hosts to the attention of the constituency, and especially of those municipal functionaries whose duty it is to see that the faithful fail not to receive their reward.

AFTER THE BATTLE—WHAT THE DEFEATED SAY.

The general tone of the opposition papers, in their comments on the late election, is one of astonishment at the magnitude of the Republican victory. The Waterloo rout of the Confederate forces has "taken the starch right out of them." As a general thing, however, they accept the result in a spirit which speaks much better for their conception of what the special shibboleth of the Liberal movement—"Reconciliation"—really means, than any exemplification they afforded of it during the progress of the campaign. The *Tribune* itself, while still professing to believe that the coalition was defeated largely through the power of money, bows to the decision of the people, and promises the administration its hearty support in the prosecution of whatever reforms it may seek to forward. Unconsciously, also, it virtually admits that the people understood the unfitness of MR. GREELEY for the Presidency, by now stating that, while they did not generally deny that the civil career of President GRANT had been faulty, they "insisted that that of his competitor had been and would be more so." When to this acknowledgment it adds the confession that—

"Our manufacturers, bankers, etc., were nearly all making money, and they deprecated any change whatever, and especially a change which they feared might affect their financial fundamental,—"

it concedes the whole case, and at the same time compliments the intelligence of the American people. Well may it affirm, as it substantially does, that notwithstanding the defeat of its candidate, its faith in the Republic is *undiminished* and unshaken.

The *World*, as was to have been expected, echoes the "I told you so" argument. It holds that the cause of the discomfiture lies partly in the nomination of MR. GREELEY, and partly in the causes which produced it. It says:

"The wings of the Democratic party were clipped by the astounding frauds and corruptions of the Tammany ring. Had it not been for the shameful exposures which cost us the State election last year, we should easily have succeeded in the Presidential contest. The Tammany frauds were the source of all our woes. New York was the chief citadel of the Democratic party; and it is creditable to the moral sentiment of the country that the hideous revelations of last year brought the Democratic party into disrepute. Had it not been for the weakening, prostrating effect of those revelations, the Democracy, with the power it exercised in its favor, would have disdained to go outside of its own organization for a candidate."

The *World* has nothing to say respecting its future attitude toward the administration.

The Cincinnati *Commercial* interprets the decision to mean that the people prefer rather to veer that they have to ratify to others that they know not of. It says:

"Certainly the country has not gone far wrong under Grant's administration, and the habit of the people of ascribing to individuals their own and good works has told in his favor. . . . The danger that he will, from time, instead of refusing, as in his earliest experience with his high office, to listen to politicians "as a class," he will defer to them entirely. We hope to find that his experience has terrified so him, and made so fear of value to the country, and we propose to show him fair play, nothing extenuating (so far at least as to become responsible for any sort of public deception), and setting down naught in malice."

The *Enquirer*, of the same city, while astounded at the result, accepts the situation, but proposes to agitate the question of amending the Constitution so as to restrict the office of President to one term. That paper says:

"It is to be deplored that General Washington did not set the example, as he intended, and the importance of which he recognized in all of his official documents and communications, to make it more vital to the preservation of our institutions."

The Chicago *Tribune* holds that GRANT was re-elected, not so much because the people wanted him for President, as because they preferred him to his competitor. It then takes the following sensible view of the situation, and of the obligations arising out of it:

"General Grant having been re-elected President or the third time, it is the duty of all loyal good citizens to accord to his administration candid consideration and impartial justice in the same measure that they demand these in return. The verdict of the American people is the decision of the last Court of Appeals until the time comes to make a new appeal. Meanwhile, vituperation on the one hand and vindictiveness on the other will be equally out of place, and will assuredly cost more than they come to."

The Chicago *Times* refrains from committing itself with respect to the future, simply remarking that—

"The demoralization that was invited by the corrupt abandonment of principle for a fatuous promise of success spread itself far and near and laid its wasting effects."

A few of the opposition papers profess to regard the result as demonstrating the unfitness of the American people for self-government, and to believe that aggression on the one hand, and servility on the other, will now be the order of the day. Without exception, however, these journals are of the fossiliferous cheol of politics—supporters in a greater or ess degree, according to the locality in which they were published, of the rebellion while it lasted, and opponents of every measure looking to the preservation of that which has been secured by the war, ever since. Their number, fortunately, is small, and their influence still ess. Upon the whole, therefore, there is easonable ground for believing that the administration will enter upon its new term with he good wishes of the majority of GREELEY's upporters. This is alike creditable to the defeated party and auspicious for President GRANT, who may feel confident that he will not disappoint the favorable expectations thus generally entertained.

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

Some surprise was naturally excited a few days ago by the telegraphic announcement that Russia had issued an order for the cessation of military preparation against the Khan of Khiva. It was implied that the operations on foot had not been merely suspended but wholly abandoned. The preliminary arrangements for the purpose of reducing Khiva to a state of acquiescence in Russian policy are well known to have been of the most systematic and complete character, having been begun several years ago, and comprehending the establishment of a port on the Caspian sea as a depot of supplies, and a thorough exploration of the steppes through which the troops would have to pass in order to reach the refractory Khan. The assembling of troops in the Caucasus and elsewhere for the expedition has, within the last few months, found frequent mention in the cable dispatches. It is, therefore, not strange that even people who know little and care less about things in Central Asia, could not help wondering at the announcement that the enterprise had been suddenly given up.

The explanation of this unexpected move ment on the part of Russia is probably to be found in an item of news which lately came from England. As everybody is aware, the English have always regarded the advance of Russia toward the border of their Indian empire with great jealousy and anxiety—feelings, the existence of which has been perfectly well known to the princes who are being gradually subjected to Russian sway. When BOKHARA was made a province of the Czar's empire, European politicians wondered that England did not interfere, and it was fully expected that she would not witness another Russian advance in that quarter without taking some step in opposition. And in his intrigues and conspiracies against the Russians, and in taking his final resolution to attack them, the Khan of Khiva no doubt, felt sure of the sympathy of the British rulers of India, who, he fancied, would be ready to aid him with an armed force whenever matters should come to an extremity. The item of news to which we referred above is the statement that the Khan, having sent an embassy to the Governor General of India, soliciting counsel and assistance in his struggle with the Czar, received the advice to make his peace with the autocrat as soon as possible. Greatly to his surprise, of course, the Khan was told by Lord NORTHBROOK, the Indian Viceroy, that the Queen of England and the Czar were on the most friendly terms, which neither of them wished to see changed. The Viceroy further told the Khan that he had erred and had given the Russians just cause of offense, and that the best thing he could do would be to surrender his Muscovite prisoners and thus deprive them of any pretext for making war upon him—at any rate, that England could not aid him in his quarrel. Disabused of the idle hopes which had encouraged him in resistance, the Khan has, no doubt, given the Russians some intimation of his intention to yield to their demands, and they have abandoned the expedition as being no longer necessary.

If this explanation is founded in fact, its chief interest to the Western world consists in the friendly relations thus established in the East between England and Russia. Instead of jealously guarding her Indian possessions from possible Russian interference, England has resolved to confide in her right of prior occupation and in Russian respect for its validity; and with the vast territory of Central Asia lying open for appropriation, Russia will hardly soon covet India. At any rate, England evidently trusts to a policy of peace and reciprocal commercial benefits as the most trustworthy means of retaining her Indian empire. Indian trade and commerce will certainly be greatly enhanced by the Russian occupation of the Mussalman kingdoms north of the Himalayas.

PHYSICIANS NEEDED.

Wonder is frequently expressed at the universality of the disease now prevailing among the horses. This fact would appear to be one feature of distinction between an epidemic and an epizooty; that is, a disease prevailing among animals, especially domestic animals, as an epidemic prevails among human beings. However severe an epidemic may be it usually (indeed, we believe, it always) passes by some favored individuals in whatever town or neighborhood it makes its appearance; while a murrain or pestilence that breaks out among cattle passes none by. Though neither a physician nor a "horse-doctor," we may suggest a possible reason for the difference. All such maladies, whether among men or horses, are malarious, or the consequence of some poisonous quality which has been added to or superinduced in the atmosphere. Just in proportion to the superior vigor and hardihood of the horse he may be supposed capable of resisting any atmospheric influence deleterious to his constitution, so that the air must have become deeply impregnated with the principle of disease before any horse will be injuriously affected. Then the horses of a city or neighborhood, though differing in strength and disposition, probably differ from one another much less than human beings, in what is called constitution. There are, generally, no invalids among them, and whatever may be their different circumstances and fortunes, they all possess the same or nearly the same capacity of resisting outside influences injurious to health. Hence, any principle in the atmosphere powerful enough to produce disease in one of the race, has the same effect on the others, and the contagion or infection sweeps all before it. Thus among the first horses in New York attacked by the prevailing influenza were Mr. BONNER's high bred, luxuriously stabled and perfectly groomed trotters. We charge nothing for the suggestion.

Some of the newspapers referring to the prevalent influenza have made very just and much needed remarks as to the discracefully careless and cruel manner in which horses in our cities are often lodged. Indeed, it is a matter of amazement that horses so housed retain any measure of health or live half the number of years during which they are found serviceable. But as the brutes are able to offer neither protest nor complaint, we look for no improvement in this matter as the immediate result of the malady or of any comments to which it may give rise. The needed reform can come only from the importation or education in the country of competent horse physicians. A pestilence which raged among the horses of Europe near the beginning of the eighteenth century, was the means of directing the attention of owners of the animal to the principles of veterinary science and experience, not only to treat his maladies, but to teach the ignorant how his health might be preserved. The governments of France, Germany, Holland, Spain, etc., took up the matter, and the result in a few years was such a knowledge of the horse as placed modern Europe in that respect on an equality with ancient Greece and Italy. America, until lately, exhibited no interest in the subject, and even now the great interest if so imperfectly understood that a properly educated horse physician is hardly to be found in the entire United States. And when one thinks of the horrible recklessness with which free American citizens slaughter themselves with quack medicines, one can easily fancy how they make their ailing horses suffer by their fancied skill in the art of healing.

THE HERO OF GETTYSBURG.

One by one the great heroes of the war are passing out from among us. In the death of Major General GEORGE G. MEADE, which took place at his residence in Philadelphia on Wednesday evening, every loyal heart will sorrow, and every Pennsylvanian will feel a sense of personal loss. For, while not born on the soil of the Keystone State, he was of it by residence, and in the truest sense, its son; the name and fame of the great soldier, and the patriotic renown of the great Commonwealth whose foster-child he was, being one and indivisible.

There are some men whose poise of faculty and character is so fine, in whom the various elements of their composition are so nicely and evenly balanced, that the scope of their powers is not readily discerned. Neither the intense nor the calm temperaments mistaken for great men; while minds of wide and comprehensive compass are quite as often misapprehended, by reason of the harmonious relation and unobtrusive motion of their faculties and functions.

To this latter class General MEADE belonged. The very symmetry of his mind, to the ordinary observer, appeared to denote the proposition that others must have been somewhat, no considerably his inferiors, may for a time have seemed to exhibit greater power and mastery. In the end, however, the difference is always seen. General MEADE's strength came from serenity instead of vehemence. So did that of General THOMAS, whom, alike in his quiet but constant devotion to duty, his faithful performance of whatever trusts were committed to his charge, and his wonderful skill with which the country recovered from the tremendous load imposed by the Chicago catastrophe, is a sufficient guarantee of that. Coolness and prudence on the one hand, and abounding, helpful human sympathy on the other, are what is needed. In the end these will bring everything out comparatively safe.

THE BURNING OF BOSTON.

It is but a little more than a year ago that the piteous fate of fire-swept Chicago thrilled all Christendom with terror and commiseration, and from every quarter of the country—indeed, of the world—caused hands laden with comfort and assistance to be stretched forth, and now a similar woe has befallen the great city of Boston. The losses are already estimated at hundreds of millions of dollars, while the fire, at this writing, is still raging. There is no need to dwell, here, upon the awful character of the visitation; our telegraphic columns give the details of the terrible calamity. What there is need to dwell upon is this: the necessity that pity shall instantly crystallize into help, and sympathy resolve itself into organized succor. Never, perhaps, in all history as there a wider uprising of humanity for humanity's sake, than in the swift and simultaneous response of the people, without distinction of sect or party, to the appeal of Chicago in her dreadful desolation and need. The heart of the nation throbbed with but one instinct—the people knew but one impulse—the sublime impulse and instinct of help. This is what is needed now. There are the houseless and homeless, standing upon the edge of a pitiless New England winter. It will be time enough by-and-by to estimate the values that have been destroyed, the magnitude of the interests that are swept away, the extent and character of the ruin and desolation which have been wrought, and the effect of these on the business concerns of the country and the world. But our first duty is toward those who have been deprived of everything except life. Let the cry of the naked—these are the cries which sound above the roaring flood of fire. No one who has any conception of the grand capacity of the American people for unselfish sacrifice, whenever supreme occasion calls, will for a moment doubt the manner in which they will be answered. But he helps who helps quickly. Let the people of Pittsburgh, as of every other locality, remember it.

THOSE processions in honor of the Virgin at Lourdes and at La Salette, of which we gave some account a few days ago, have been and are still the subject of lively discussion among French political parties. While devout Catholics, concerned chiefly or alone for the prosperity of the church and for their own spiritual interests, naturally look upon these demonstrations from a purely religious point of view, politicians of all classes perceive in them a movement of palpable significance with reference to the political condition and prospects of the country. In the lately published manifesto of the Count DE CHAMBORD one of the most noticeable sentences is the declaration that the "Papacy has need of France," a statement generally interpreted to mean that the Papacy counts on France for the recovery of the temporal power. Hence fierce jealousy of whatever signs or tendencies may indicate popular sympathy with the clergy, whose re-establishment in their ancient privileges and influence would be an immediate result of the restoration of the Legitimate monarchy. Hence at Grenoble and elsewhere the processions of pilgrims have been assailed with insults, and have been with difficulty protected from violence at the hands of the radical rabble, while by people of a more moderate and respectable class the clergy and their friends are denounced as "having made Gon a political character." Others declare that by their injudicious use of religious ceremonies as political machinery, they have made the "blood of the martyrs of no effect," and have forfeited the advantage they had derived from the murder of the hostages. Still others see in the revival of pilgrimages evidence of the deterioration of French intelligence, as they manifest at the present day a degree of credulity and superstition supposed to have been overcome and left behind ages ago. It is, however, argued in the way of apology that the phenomena in question are the proper consequence of reaction against the incredulity and secularism which have so long prevailed in France, and as infidelity has been intimately associated with the lack of patriotism and with the tendency toward anarchy which made despotism seem necessary, it is easily taken for granted that faith (and the more of it the better) must be the source and concomitant of regular government and permanent peace. Hence the conclusion that the best way to awaken the spirit of patriotism was to awaken the spirit of religion. And to Americans the circumstance is interesting that, still further in the way of apology, it is alleged that the camp-meetings of the United States every year exhibit eccentricities of enthusiasm which far surpass the most extravagant manifestations of the pilgrims at Lourdes. There is, however, a great difference.

BY NO means least among the causes of the unprecedented majority which the people of Pennsylvania have just given for President GRANT, was the deep-seated feeling that he was the firm and devoted friend of the industries of the country, and that his re-election was necessary, not only for their continued prosperity, but even to the continued existence of many that are now in a flourishing condition. This, also, is the view taken of the case by HENRY CAREY BAIRD, the distinguished protectionist, who, in a letter to a Boston paper, expresses an opinion that except for this feeling it would have been almost impossible for Republicanism to have taken such deep root in our soil. Mr. BAIRD holds that, in view of these facts, and of the further one that the party is now rid of the so-called "revenue reformers," a distracting element in its ranks, no member of Congress claiming to be a Republican ought hereafter to take part in any movement calculated to harry and distract any one of our workers at the loom or the forge, in the furnace or the factory. These workers have served the party well in an emergency, and should now be allowed by the party to follow their several trades and callings in peace, quiet and confidence, free from the fear of any foreign foes. Especially should there not, a twelve-months hence, be another committee of ways and means in which "revenue reform" shall be represented as though it constituted the slogan of a distinct and powerful political party. It is to be hoped these timely suggestions may have due weight. Pennsylvania, in common with all other parts of the country, has seen and experienced the beneficial effects of the protective principle upon all the great and growing industries within our borders, and it is to be hoped the people of the other GRANT States may come up heartily to her assistance in the maintenance of the policy under which the best interests of the whole country have so greatly prospered and increased.

MR. BANCROFT having received the best part of his education in Germany, and having lived there so much, he naturally sometimes expresses their kindness for him by the assurance that he is a pretty good German. However, the *Anzeiger des Westens*, thinks that he is not yet fully Germanized or he never would have thought of asking the Berlin Foreign office for an account of the expenses incurred in connection with the San Juan arbitration. The minister, our contemporary thinks, was certainly "initiated by mistake" by comparing American with German usages—he was claiming of the large fees paid in the United States to lawyers for their services and their legal opinions; of the enormous sums which would have been here expended for carpets and furniture for the room in which such a judgment as that of the San Juan case would have been rendered; and of the with sympathetic warmth he felt as when unencountered. As a still further test, two wagons filled with men and boys were added to the already long train, and, before the steamer moved off, the great steamboat was thronged apparently without difficulty.

Among the almost countless manufacturing enterprises of St. Louis, a wire mill has been in successful operation for some years past. English operatives were brought over for the purpose, and a total iron rods of English make into many sizes of wire, and an immense trade is growing up and out of it.

The statistics of Baltimore commerce in October show a satisfactory increase over those of the corresponding month last year. There were fifty-six arrivals from foreign ports. There was a decrease of 225,339 bushels in wheat, 156,571 in oats, and 1,456 in rye, while there was an increase of 1,000,000 bushels in corn, and a pretty long one would been run up.

Spreading the Small-pox.

The latest sensation in Charlestown, Mass., was a peculiar one. There was in the employ of the city in that town a Mr. Sylvester, whose special duty it was to fumigate houses in which small-pox existed, and to take care of patients. About five o'clock last Sunday morning a patient on whom he was attending, and who was in a delirious insanity from the fever, expressed a desire to take a walk. Sylvester wrapped a sheet around him, and took him into the street, barefooted and nude, with the exception of the night covering, although it was sharp and cold. Together they promenaded through several streets, visiting a number of stables, the inmates of which were scared badly, all taking the pair for a pair of escaped lunatics, or perhaps for those of murder, etc. The friends of the sick man discovered his absence, hunted him up and took him home, a more reliable person being employed to attend him. When the facts came to the ears of the authorities, Sylvester was discharged from the position of fumigator. He received five dollars for each house fumigated, and declared recently that he intended to make his fortune out of the thing as a sanitarian. He has been in the city's employ for twenty years, and the gift is incrusted in his neck to a considerable depth. It was his custom, after having been in contact with the most malignant cases, to mingle among crowds on the streets, walks, and in the most exposed places, in order to spread the disease and increase the number of his cases.

An Important Decision as to Life Insurance.

In the Supreme Court of New York, General Terry, on Wednesday last, a decision was given which is of great interest to holders of life insurance policies, or contemplate taking out policies. It shows that insurers cannot be too careful in stating all the facts regarding their physical condition when procuring insurance. The case was brought by the executor to compel the payment of a policy by a life insurance company, the latter setting up as a defense that the policy holder had not told the whole truth. The Court held that the statements that the one whose life has been insured as to his health are not warrantees, as the statements in procuring insurances in marine and fire insurance companies as to the matter insured. The question was whether there had been fair dealing. A concealment of the fact that the insured had been in the habit of consulting a physician was held to be a misrepresentation as to the material fact, and sufficient to vitiate the policy.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing to the Cincinnati *Commercial* from Andersonville, gives a graphic description of the old prison grounds and the cemetery there. The stockade is falling to decay, and a year or two more will efface it entirely, except from our own recollection. The graves of the nearly thirteen thousand soldiers passed to the freedom of eternity rather than endure the misery of life—can only be traced here and there, for most of the marks of the last eight years have outlasted. The little rivulets which the prisoners dug with cups and spoons remain just as they were left. And the wonderful spring, which was discovered one morning after a thunder storm flowing out from the hillside, still pours its sweet pure water as freely now as then. The cemetery, with its thirteen thousand graves, is on the slope of a beautiful hill. Over the quiet spot young trees give the cool shade which would have been so gratefully sought by the poor fellows whose lives were ended under the scorching sun.

THE *Financier* comments with a great deal of vigor on the "remarkable fact that twice a year the managers of great railroad routes are apt to make the discovery that freight charges are inadequate and must be raised, and that this discovery is made just as there is a positive necessity for getting the autumn crops to market and just as navigation closes." Corn rules at about sixty-five cents per bushel in the eastern sea-ports, but these same people will not pay more than a bushel are for transportation. This, if anything can be so characterized, deserves the name of extortion. The horse disease has acted disagreeably on the railroads, and they are making a much larger part of our breadstuffs must this year be transported to the sea-board by rail than formerly. Monopoly has a tight rein at present, but it cannot last. The interests of the shipper and consumer must be consulted before long.

THE latest reports of the iron trade in the north of England show that there is more firmness in the market, and that there is little, if any prospects of a further decline in prices during the winter. There is a large number of orders on hand for rails with some manufacturers that will occupy them nearly six months to come. A falling off in the demand for plates is looked for in consequence of the dullness in iron ship building. In Wales the iron masters are chiefly operating on old contracts, and the interest is excited as to whether there shall be a general strike or "lock out" when these run out. Scotch iron has almost wholly recovered its firmness. The iron masters in France and Belgium are still busy on highly remunerative contracts, obtained in consequence of the advance in English iron.

GOVERNMENT officers have been experimenting with submarine explosives at Block Island, Rhode Island, and have just blasted a rock known as "Peaked Rock," with a charge of twenty-five pounds of dualine, equal in explosive force to over three hundred pounds of gunpowder. The shock shook the island like an earthquake, and threw a beautiful column of water and spray high into the air, while the rock was thoroughly broken up. The charge started a very sensible tremor in the water. A multitude of dead fishes can be seen floating around the vicinity of the explosion, and some have been picked up weighing from three to five pounds.

MISS ELIZABETH PEABODY and a number of other public spirited citizens have recently inaugurated in Boston a kinder-garten, and are using every endeavor to secure its success. A correspondent of the *Advertiser* writes: "Whoever has had an opportunity to see the children happily occupied in one of these schools will be ready to say that it would be a great blessing to any child to be able to attend one from the age of four to eight. The child is kept happily busy, and taught, in a perfectly natural way, to observe and think and to use all his faculties and senses, his eyes and fingers and voice, upon things which will be always useful and tend to make him busy and contented, active and happy.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The horse distemper has materially shortened the supplies of breadstuffs at the East. On the 24 instant there were only 429,709 bushels of wheat in store at the New York and Brooklyn warehouses, against 2,255,000 bushels at the corresponding date last year.

All the State appointments of Thanksgiving thus far made agree with that of the President in naming November 28.

For months past Paris has been an active market for the sale of the chinaware that once graced the Imperial tables of the Tuileries and St. Cloud, so what more natural than that a factory should have been established in the environs of the French capital for the manufacture of simulated second-hand plates, tureens, cups and saucers, cream jugs and gravy boats, bearing in dingy gilt the letter "N," surmounted by a crown.

Last week two of the most villainous desperadoes of New Orleans, who long hated each other with a trifle more of bitterness than the rest of their fellow men, met on a spacious common and shot and narked each other in such an earnest manner that both died in a few minutes after the contest had ceased.

A colored girl, in attempting to cross the track of the Louisville and Nashville railroad, recently, was struck by the cow-catcher and thrown back upon the plank. She was fortunately unhurt, and remained there quietly enjoying the ride until the next station was reached, when she jumped off and exclaimed: "De is just de place I wanted to come to."

Twelve iron enterprises are in operation or projected in Rome, Georgia. Five of these are in operation, yielding forty tons per day. All of them will be in operation within six months, and the probable yield will be one hundred and twenty tons per day, or over two millions of dollars per annum, in the value of their products, and giving employment to over one thousand men.

San Diego, the proposed terminus of the Texas (Southern) Pacific Railroad, is rapidly looming up in commercial importance, and may soon become a formidable rival to San Francisco. The Secretary of the Treasury has authorized the landing of goods at that port from foreign countries, in place of sending them, as heretofore, to San Francisco for entry and then shipping them back. San Diego is about 500 miles south of San Francisco, near the Mexican frontier line, and has a fine harbor capable of accommodating the largest vessels.

A Texas company is putting up fresh green turtle in hermetically sealed cans. They catch their turtles, put them in pens like cattle, feed them, and when ready slaughter them like hogs, and put them up nicely in cans for market. They are selling those cans of green turtle in the hotels, the restaurants, on steamboats and to private families, and this will, doubtless, be ranked soon with the growing and paying industries of the Gulf coast.

A troublesome echo in a new court house at Bloomington, Ill., has been stilled by stretching several small iron wires across the room, at different heights. The sound waves are thus broken up, and reverberation prevented.

The Prussian soldiers who fought at Sedan averaged three inches larger round the chest and two inches taller than the Prussian soldiers who fought at Waterloo. This astonishing development is ascribed to fifty years of stringent military training enforced upon the whole male population.

Whether it be owing to the result of the elections or otherwise, it is said to be a fact that the New York sparrows are unusually pugnacious at present. It is possible that these birds may have political clubs among themselves, since it is a common circumstance for a dozen or so of them to be seen pitching into one victim, proceeding to action in accordance with the working of political clubs.

The salmon and oyster fisheries of Oregon have been immensely successful this year. The total number of salmon taken for curing purposes in the Columbia river alone, from the opening of the season, on the 1st of August was 382,500, weighing 5,320,000, made up into 57,000 cases, 13,000 barrels, and valued at $929,200. This does not include the large number of salmon taken and sold fresh in the local markets for immediate use.

The important question of the western or Pacific terminus of the Northern Pacific railroad was not settled by the recent trip of the executive officials of that corporation to the Pacific coast. They made a pretty thorough examination of the various routes proposed, but the final decision will not be reached or disclosed until a meeting of the directors is held in New York, probably in the early part of the coming winter.

There was a steam wagon for common roads exhibited at the Augusta, Ga., fair. Two large wagons and three carts loaded with bricks were first attached to the steamer. This had she pulled around the fair ground with comparative ease, and without so fast as when unincumbered. As a still further test, two wagons filled with men and boys were added to the already long train, and, before, the steamer moved off, she went around the grounds apparently without difficulty.

Among the almost countless manufacturing enterprises of St. Louis, a wire mill has been in successful operation for some years past. English operatives were brought over for the purpose, and a total iron rods of English make into many sizes of wire, and an immense trade is growing up and out of it.

The statistics of Baltimore commerce in October show a satisfactory increase over those of the corresponding month last year. There were fifty-six arrivals from foreign ports. There was a decrease of 225,339 bushels in wheat, 156,571 in oats, and 1,456 in rye, while there was an increase of 1,000,000 bushels in corn, and a pretty long one would been run up.

Spreading the Small-pox.

The latest sensation in Charlestown, Mass., was a peculiar one. There was in the employ of the city in that town a Mr. Sylvester, whose special duty it was to fumigate houses in which small-pox existed, and to take care of patients. About five o'clock last Sunday morning a patient on whom he was attending, and who was in a delirious insanity from the fever, expressed a desire to take a walk. Sylvester wrapped a sheet around him, and took him into the street, barefooted and nude, with the exception of the night covering, although it was sharp and cold. Together they promenaded through several streets, visiting a number of stables, the inmates of which were scared badly, all taking the pair for a pair of escaped lunatics, or perhaps for those of murder, etc. The friends of the sick man discovered his absence, hunted him up and took him home, a more reliable person being employed to attend him. When the facts came to the ears of the authorities, Sylvester was discharged from the position of fumigator. He received five dollars for each house fumigated, and declared recently that he intended to make his fortune out of the thing as a sanitarian. He has been in the city's employ for twenty years, and the gift is incrusted in his neck to a considerable depth. It was his custom, after having been in contact with the most malignant cases, to mingle among crowds on the streets, walks, and in the most exposed places, in order to spread the disease and increase the number of his cases.

An Important Decision as to Life Insurance.

In the Supreme Court of New York, General Terry, on Wednesday last, a decision was given which is of great interest to holders of life insurance policies, or contemplate taking out policies. It shows that insurers cannot be too careful in stating all the facts regarding their physical condition when procuring insurance. The case was brought by the executor to compel the payment of a policy by a life insurance company, the latter setting up as a defense that the policy holder had not told the whole truth. The Court held that the statements that the one whose life has been insured as to his health are not warrantees, as the statements in procuring insurances in marine and fire insurance companies as to the matter insured. The question was whether there had been fair dealing. A concealment of the fact that the insured had been in the habit of consulting a physician was held to be a misrepresentation as to the material fact, and sufficient to vitiate the policy.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing to the Cincinnati *Commercial* from Andersonville, gives a graphic description of the old prison grounds and the cemetery there. The stockade is falling to decay, and a year or two more will efface it entirely, except from our own recollection. The graves of the nearly thirteen thousand soldiers passed to the freedom of eternity rather than endure the misery of life—can only be traced here and there, for most of the marks of the last eight years have outlasted. The little rivulets which the prisoners dug with cups and spoons remain just as they were left. And the wonderful spring, which was discovered one morning after a thunder storm flowing out from the hillside, still pours its sweet pure water as freely now as then. The cemetery, with its thirteen thousand graves, is on the slope of a beautiful hill. Over the quiet spot young trees give the cool shade which would have been so gratefully sought by the poor fellows whose lives were ended under the scorching sun.

THE *Financier* comments with a great deal of vigor on the "remarkable fact that twice a year the managers of great railroad routes are apt to make the discovery that freight charges are inadequate and must be raised, and that this discovery is made just as there is a positive necessity for getting the autumn crops to market and just as navigation closes." Corn rules at about sixty-five cents per bushel in the eastern sea-ports, but these same people will not pay more than a bushel are for transportation. This, if anything can be so characterized, deserves the name of extortion. The horse disease has acted disagreeably on the railroads, and they are making a much larger part of our breadstuffs must this year be transported to the sea-board by rail than formerly. Monopoly has a tight rein at present, but it cannot last. The interests of the shipper and consumer must be consulted before long.

THE latest reports of the iron trade in the north of England show that there is more firmness in the market, and that there is little, if any prospects of a further decline in prices during the winter. There is a large number of orders on hand for rails with some manufacturers that will occupy them nearly six months to come. A falling off in the demand for plates is looked for in consequence of the dullness in iron ship building. In Wales the iron masters are chiefly operating on old contracts, and the interest is excited as to whether there shall be a general strike or "lock out" when these run out. Scotch iron has almost wholly recovered its firmness. The iron masters in France and Belgium are still busy on highly remunerative contracts, obtained in consequence of the advance in English iron.

GOVERNMENT officers have been experimenting with submarine explosives at Block Island, Rhode Island, and have just blasted a rock known as "Peaked Rock," with a charge of twenty-five pounds of dualine, equal in explosive force to over three hundred pounds of gunpowder. The shock shook the island like an earthquake, and threw a beautiful column of water and spray high into the air, while the rock was thoroughly broken up. The charge started a very sensible tremor in the water. A multitude of dead fishes can be seen floating around the vicinity of the explosion, and some have been picked up weighing from three to five pounds.

MISS ELIZABETH PEABODY and a number of other public spirited citizens have recently inaugurated in Boston a kinder-garten, and are using every endeavor to secure